



Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Herculaneum Lead Contamination Cleanup

Oct. 9, 2001

Progress Report

Last week's activities:

Missouri Department of Natural Resources' staff continued to work to place additional air sampling equipment in Herculaneum. The Dunklin High School and Broad St. air monitoring sites will be sampled every third day instead of every sixth day. Caution signs were replaced to heighten awareness and provide information to citizens. The department conducted eight to 10 hours of field oversight and surveillance on a daily basis and observed or conducted the following: Doe Run trucks leaving the facility uncovered, sampled the ball field at Bates Park on Joachim Ave. (found no detection for lead), observed not all vehicles were being washed before leaving Doe Run, and met with city officials to determine storm sewer flow. The department is taking appropriate enforcement actions.

Doe Run has repaved its employee parking lots, sealing any lead contamination and making it easier to keep their lots clean. Doe Run filed appeals to the Order to Abate and Cease and Desist Violations with Missouri's air, hazardous waste and water commissions.

The department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sampled the haul routes and side streets. Screening samples indicated that average lead concentrations were 14,378 parts per million (ppm) on the haul routes and 1,424 (ppm) on the non-haul routes. The department's order now requires Doe Run to repave these roads. Doe Run's contractor has sampled about 45 yards for lead concentrations. Four residential yards have been cleaned up by Doe Run under EPA oversight and order.

Upcoming activities:

The department will maintain daily presence in Herculaneum to oversee work, document any problems and issue enforcement directives. The department will continue to investigate complaints, monitor for fugitive dust, sample storm water and water from the vehicle washing facilities and inspect the vehicle washing facility at Doe Run to ensure proper washing is conducted.

Doe Run will continue to clean residential yards under the department and EPA's oversight. Doe Run plans to repave the contaminated area on the south and backside of the plant. The plan to repave city streets is due from Doe Run no later than Oct. 26, 2001. Repaving is to begin no later than Nov. 5, 2001.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services will continue to contact residences where children with elevated blood leads reside to obtain permission to release their address to EPA and Doe Run to initiate yard cleanup.

For more information, contact the Missouri Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-361-4827 or (573) 526-6627 or visit the Web at www.dnr.state.mo.us/deq/herc.htm.